

The Record

3 August 1951

Assistant to the Director

McCarran Request for Wisner Testimony on

25X1

(Refer: Pforzheimer Summary Memo on Wisner-Edwards-Pforzheimer-Hansen meeting, 3 August 1951)

1. A series of basic considerations are pertinent to any recommendation on a course of action. Thus briefly CIA must:

- a. Preserve its reputation for integrity with the public and Congress;
- b. Maintain the rapport it has established on the Hill;
- c. Safeguard insofar as possible its cordial working relationships with other IAC agencies;
- d. Seek to avoid the establishment of a precedent whereby Congress calls CIA officials to testify on their operations.

2. With these basic considerations in mind, the following course of action is recommended:

- a. Go over the ground with committee counsel in an effort to resolve the query informally and thus avoid an appearance by Wisner before the committee.
- b. Notify State of the results of this conference in order that CIA might not be charged with bad faith.
- c. If it becomes necessary for Wisner to testify, obtain an understanding that no subordinate of his be called.
- d. If it becomes necessary for Wisner to testify, explore the desirability of having him subpoenaed that he need not appear as a voluntary witness.
- e. Insist upon an executive session with full understanding of the sensitivity of CIA and its trade.

25X1

cc: Mr. Wisner - 1  
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C. B. HANSEN  
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